

Message Text

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21

ACTION IO-11

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TAGS: SNAR, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: ECOSOC ORGANIZATION MEETING: NARCOTICS

REF: STATE 006687

1. THE ECOSOC ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION DISCUSSION OF THE SECRETARIAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL ENDED WITH AN ACCEPTABLE DECISION IN LINE WITH THE REFTEL. FOLLOWING TWO BRIEF SESSIONS ON THE ISSUE, THE COUNCIL DECIDED THAT "THE DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON PROGRAM ASPECTS OF THE SECRETARIAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR NARCOTICS CONTROL WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTICS DRUGS AT ITS FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION AND TO THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAM AND COORDINATION AT ITS SIXTEENTH SESSION."

2. IN PREPARATION FOR THE COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE, USUN CONTACTED THE UKUN. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, THE UK MISSION WAS AWARE OF THE PROBLME. THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICER INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT REFERRAL OF THE MATTER TO THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS. NONE OF THE UK OFFICERS EVER INDICATED THEIR WILLINGNESS, HOWEVER, TO INITIATE OR SPEARHEAD THE MOVE. AS IT TURNED OUT, THE UK DELEGATE DID NOT PARTICIPATE AT ALL IN THE BRIEF DEBATE ON

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THE ITEM. USUN ALSO DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH THE BELGIAN

MISSION TO THE UN, SINCE THE BELGIANS PRESIDE OVER THE WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER GROUP IN NEW YORK DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY. IN ADDITION, WE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH A MEMBER OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD.

3. THE ISSUE WAS FORMALLY INTRODUCED INTO THE ECOSOC DEBATE BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET UNION, AMBASSADOR MAKAYEV. IN THE GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ORGANIZATION SESSION, MAKAYEV STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE MERGING OF THE TWO NARCOTICS SECRETARIATS. THE OPPOSITE POINT OF VIEW WAS FIRST EXPRESSED BY THE DELEGATE OF FRANCE. AMBASSADOR MYERSON SUPPORTED THE FRENCH POSITION AND ADDED TO IT WITH COMMENTS BASED ON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL. NO OTHER DELEGATION SPOKE ON THE MATTER.

4. AT THE END OF THE FIRST SESSION AT WHICH THE ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED, AMBASSADOR MYERSON HAD A WORD WITH AMBASSADOR MAKAYEV IN ORDER TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE UN NARCOTICS PROGRAMS IN GENERAL AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POSITION THAT THE TWO SECRETARIATS IN QUESTION, PERFORMING DISTINCT FUNCTIONS, SHOULD NOT BE TAMPERED WITH. AMBASSADOR MYERSON FURTHER INDICATED OUR INTENTION TO PURSUE THE ISSUE AT THIS SESSION AND, IF NECESSARY, IN FURTHER SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL.

5. ON JANUARY 14 THE SECRETARY OF THE ECOSOC, MR. CORDOVEZ, PROPOSED A COMPROMISE, THAT IS TO SAY, TO REFER THE QUESTION TO BOTH THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND THE CPC. THIS COMPROMISE SOLUTION WAS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS INCLUDING THE DELEGATION OF THE SOVIET UNION.
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